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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

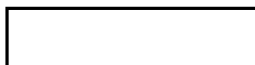
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

22 May 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Brig. General George S. Blanchard

1. Per our 22 May conversation, attached is a copy of the material I gave to Secretary Laird during the course of our conversation on 19 May. In the package left with him, the map was colored. This coloring was done by hand, and our xerox copy appended hereto is an inadequate reproduction. If you need a colored map, I will send you one.

2. Also per our conversation, I apologize for the inadvertent oversight of not sending you this material promptly enough for you to be aware of the existence prior to the Secretary of Defense's query. I will try to make sure that this type of slip will not occur again.



George A. Carver, Jr.  
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

25X1

Attachment

CAC:JKL

Orig - Addressee w/att  
1- CAC Chrono w/att ✓  
1- VAS Chrono w/att

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19 May 1970

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Preliminary Information from HES/70

1. The new pacification information system, HES/70 was introduced during 1969 and formally replaced the old HES in January 1970. HES/70 contains three parallels to the old HES system: (1) It is an American system in which U.S. district advisors report; (2) It uses a questionnaire format; and (3) It deals with military and pacification matters. Beyond these three parallelisms, however, the systems are widely divergent and few, if any, direct comparisons of results may be made at this time. HES/70 is not a system which lends itself readily to the type of scoring mechanism of "A," "B," "C," etc.; and the complex mathematical processes which provide such aggregative letter scores should be considered as extremely tentative at this time.
2. Attached is a preliminary reading of the portion of the January, February and March 1970 data which deals with the level and nature of enemy activity. The table deals with the number of hamlets that did or did not experience the type of enemy activity listed in questions B1 through B8; there is no account taken in this table of the populations of these hamlets.
3. For the sake of simplicity in presentation, the hamlets that did experience some form of enemy activity have been added together -- a process which is somewhat dubious from a statistical standpoint and which, incidentally, is the basic reason why the old HES and HES/70 data are irreconcilable. Within the 1,461 (Feb.) enemy initiated actions reported, for example, there was a range of seriousness from minor harassment to local defensive force positions being overrun. Attached to the summary report are the individual response sheets for each question. Since the numbering system is not uniform in the degree to which, say, a "4" represents

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a certain degree of seriousness or loss to the GVN, examination of the question response sheets is currently the only way in which analysts can both obtain a view of the nature and seriousness of the enemy activity and still avoid the use of the convolute mathematical models which transform the data into letter scores.

4. The attached data represents a preliminary look at the HES/70 results in the crucial area of enemy activity, and is revealing in the somewhat alarming level of enemy presence in hamlets throughout South Vietnam.

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SUMMARY SHEET-JANUARY

	<u>NO, OR NONE</u>	<u>YES, IN VARYING LEVELS OF SERIOUSNESS</u>
B1 Enemy Physical Control	10734	599
B2 Enemy Initiated Action	9153	1719
B3 Seriousness of Enemy Action	9029	1809
B4 Armed Enemy Presence	8164	3016
B5 Selective Terrorism	10658	240
B6 General Terrorism	10534	434
B7 Anti-Pacification Incidents	10549	226
B8 Propagandizing	8934	1479

SUMMARY SHEET - FEBRUARY

B1 Enemy Physical Control	10709	602
B2 Enemy Initiated Action	9383	1461
B3 Seriousness of Enemy Action	9252	1580
B4 Armed Enemy Presence	8226	2895
B5 Selective Terrorism	10697	205
B6 General Terrorism	10578	363
B7 Anti-Pacification Incidents	10589	172
B8 Propagandizing	9015	1459

SUMMARY SHEET - MARCH

B1 Enemy Physical Control	10806	646
B2 Enemy Initiated Action	9505	1455
B3 Seriousness of Enemy Action	9373	1561
B4 Armed Enemy Presence	8216	3009
B5 Selective Terrorism	10689	281
B6 General Terrorism	10607	459
B7 Anti-Pacification Incidents	10676	174
B8 Propagandizing	9482	1031

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B1 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Do enemy forces physically control this hamlet?

<u>POSSIBLE RESPONSES</u>	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	10734	10709	10806			
1 - Yes	480	488	556			
2 - Yes, defensive works have been constructed by enemy forces to establish a "combat hamlet"	119	114	90			
3 -	0	0	0			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Not Applicable	0	0	3			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	7	21	89			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B2 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Did the enemy initiate action against local security forces in or near the hamlet during the month?

POSSIBLE RESPONSES

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	9153	9383	9505			
1 - Yes, once	936	871	872			
2 - Yes, sporadically	682	502	511			
3 - Yes, repeatedly	101	88	72			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Not applicable	431	430	524			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	37	58	60			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B3 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

What was the most serious level of enemy-initiated military activity directed at local security forces positions in or near this hamlet?

<u>POSSIBLE RESPONSES</u>	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - None	9029	9252	9373			
1 - Minor harassment (sniping, mining, etc.)	911	828	832			
2 - Attack by coordinated small arms or automatic weapons fire	429	402	358			
3 - Attack by heavy weapons fire (mortar, rocket, RR, etc.)	397	295	300			
4 - Ground assault - repelled	50	35	38			
5 - Ground assault - friendly position overrun	22	20	33			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Not applicable	481	472	547			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	21	28	63			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B4 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Were armed enemy military forces present in inhabited areas of this hamlet during the month?

<u>POSSIBLE RESPONSES</u>	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	8164	8226	8216			
1 - Yes, once	921	848	957			
2 - Yes, sporadically	1365	1318	1327			
3 - Yes, regularly	730	729	725			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Not applicable	3	13	28			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	157	198	291			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B5 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Were any attempts at selective terrorism (kidnapping or assassination) directed at particular GVN officials, prominent residents or local leaders of the hamlet during the month?

POSSIBLE RESPONSES

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	10658	10697	10689			
1 - Yes, once	206	174	229			
2 - Yes, more than once	34	31	52			
3 -	0	0	0			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Not applicable	312	269	400			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	130	161	174			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B6 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Were any acts of general, or non-selective terrorism (mining, sabotage, harassing fire, bombing of a public place, etc.) directed against people of this hamlet during the month?

POSSIBLE RESPONSES

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	10534	10578	10607			
1 - Yes, once	322	259	349			
2 - Yes, more than once	112	104	110			
3 -	0	0	0			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Not applicable	148	145	172			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	224	246	306			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B7 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Have incidents targeted against GVN non-military activities in this hamlet (GVN projects, officer, National Police, RD Cadre, etc.) occurred in the past month?

POSSIBLE RESPONSES

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	10549	10589	10676			
1 - Yes, minor	140	114	124			
2 - Yes, serious	81	54	46			
3 - Yes, project or activity abandoned	5	4	4			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	0	0	0			
8 - Non applicable	540	547	619			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge	25	24	75			

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HAMLET MONTHLY QUESTION B8 (ENEMY ACTIVITIES)

Were any enemy propaganda meetings held or was printed propaganda distributed in this hamlet during the month?

<u>POSSIBLE RESPONSES</u>	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
0 - No	8934	9015	9482			
1 - Yes, once	593	559	477			
2 - More than once	886	900	554			
3 -	0	0	0			
4 -	0	0	0			
5 -	0	0	0			
6 -	0	0	0			
7 -	27	32	80			
8 - Non Applicable	900	826	951			
9 - Unknown/unable to judge						

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### PRELIMINARY RESULTS FOR APRIL 1970

1. Attached is a map showing the declines suffered in pacification during the past month. The provinces colored in violet (Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Tay Ninh) are those in which the April decline follows a three-month trend in that direction. The provinces colored in red (Pleiku, Phu Bon, Binh Thuan, Chau Doc, Phong Dinh, and Bac Lieu) are those which declined in both March and April. The provinces colored in orange are those in which new declines for April have been recorded.

2. In the overall sense, ABC population declined by 142,100 people (0.8 percent) from the March total such that at the end of April 88.9 percent of South Vietnam's population was rated A, B, or C. In most cases the declines were the result of increased enemy presence and activity -- the remaining elements of pacification activities such as economic and social development have thus far been relatively unimpeded. HES/70 is far more responsive to enemy presence and activity than its predecessor system and thus the increased enemy activity during April has a dramatic effect on scores.

3. The volatility of HES/70 with regard to enemy activity and presence is undoubtedly a plus from an analytical standpoint. However, inasmuch as the fluctuation in letter categories is far greater than the previous HES system for a given level of presence and activity, the comparability of HES and HES/70 should be seriously questioned. It would appear at this point that HES/70 should be considered as an independent system and that comparability through the use of A, B, C, etc. letter grade comparisons be resorted to only in extremis.

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